

Gly His Arg Arg Arg Ser Ser Ala Gln Arg Asp Thr Arg Glu Pro Thr
Met Ala Pro Phe Asp Pro Trp Leu Leu His Pro Val Val Ala Val Ala
Asp Ser Pro Ser Arg Ala (SEQ ID NO: 3); or

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cont*
d) the amino acid sequence of a) or of SEQ ID NO: 1, further having a leader sequence at the N-terminal, -1 position, wherein said leader sequence consists essentially of the following amino acid sequence from positions -22 to -1: Met Ala Pro Phe Asp Pro Trp Leu Leu His Pro Val Val Ala Val Ala Asp Ser Pro Ser Arg Ala (SEQ ID NO: 4).

Please add new claim 43, as follows:

43. (New) A purified collagenase inhibitor protein, said protein consisting essentially of an amino acid sequence selected from among the following:

a) amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one of a glutamine (Glu) at position 28, a threonine (Thr) at position 43, and a glycine (Gly) at position 48 are substituted with another amino acid which may be the same or different for each position; or

C23
b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein at least one of a glutamine (Glu) at position 28, a threonine (Thr) at position 43, a glycine (Gly) at position 48, an alanine (Ala) at position 111, a glutamine (Glu) at position 125, and a threonine (Thr) at position 128 are substituted with another amino acid which may be the same or different for each position; or

c) the amino acid sequence of a) or b), further having a Met at position -1; or

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

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c) the amino acid sequence of a) or b), further having a leader sequence at the N-terminal, -1 position, wherein said leader sequence consists essentially of the following amino acid sequence from positions -38 to -1:

Gly His Arg Arg Arg Ser Ser Ala Gln Arg Asp Thr Arg Glu Pro Thr Met Ala Pro Phe Asp Pro Trp Leu Leu His Pro Val Val Ala Val Ala Asp Ser Pro Ser Arg Ala (SEQ ID NO: 3); or

d) the amino acid sequence of a) or b), further having a leader sequence at the N-terminal, -1 position, wherein said leader sequence consists essentially of the following amino acid sequence from positions -22 to -1: Met Ala Pro Phe Asp Pro Trp Leu Leu His Pro Val Val Ala Val Ala Asp Ser Pro Ser Arg Ala (SEQ ID NO: 4).

REMARKS

With entry of this amendment, claims 25 and 27-43 are pending in this application. Claims 27-42 have been withdrawn from consideration as allegedly being drawn to a nonelected invention. Claim 25 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim certain embodiments of their invention. Claim 26 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 43 has been added. Support for claim 43 is found in the originally filed specification, e.g., at pages 15-16 (pages 13-15 in the substitute specification filed January 25, 2002). No new matter has been added.

Formal Matters

The Examiner acknowledges receipt of the Preliminary Amendment filed November 14, 2001, but has not entered the amendments into the substitute specification filed January 25, 2002. Office Action, page 2. The Examiner asks that Applicants resubmit the amendments with reference to the substitute specification. *Id.*

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com